

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name HEFLIN'S STORE

other names/site number Stover's Store; Brawner's Store VDHR 030-0520

2. Location

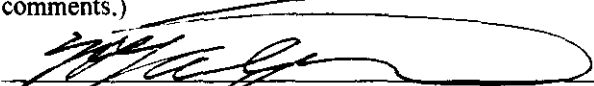
street & number 5310 Blantyre Road (Route 628) not for publication N/A

city of town Little Georgetown, Broad Run vicinity X

state Virginia code VA county Fauquier code 061 Zip 20137

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official

12/23/03
Date

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the

National Register

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register

removed from the National Register

other (explain):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

U. S. Department of the Interior
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Heflin's Store
Fauquier County, Virginia

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple listing. N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: Department Store: General Store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: Department Store: General Store (Vacant)

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7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

___ OTHER (Early 19th-century Vernacular)___

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation ___STONE – Sandstone; Limestone___

roof WOOD - Shingles___

walls STONE – Sandstone; Limestone___

other ___CORNICE - Wood___

___CHIMNEY - Stone___

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register Listing.)

☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

___ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

___ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all boxes that apply.)

___ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

___ **B** removed from its original location.

___ **C** a birthplace or a grave.

___ **D** a cemetery.

___ **E** a reconstructed building, object or structure.

___ **F** a commemorative property.

___ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Heflin's Store Fauquier County, Virginia

COMMERCE
ARCHITECTURE

Significant Dates 1845 _____
 1895 _____
 1899 _____

Architect/Builder John M. Fry, Stonemason

No See Continuation sheet.

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cheryl H. Shepherd, Architectural Historian

organization Millennium Preservation Services date 4 September 2003

street & number P. O. Box 312 telephone 540-349-0118

city or town Warrenton state Virginia zip code 20188-0312

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mr. & Mrs. John T. Hazel, Jr.

street & number 6254 Huntley Road telephone 540-347-768

city or town Broad Run state Virginia zip code 20137

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington DC 20503.

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7. Summary Description:

Originally built as Stover's Store in 1845, Heflin's Store, stands approximately ten miles northeast of the town of Warrenton in the village known as Little Georgetown in Fauquier County, Virginia. The unusual Bull Run Mountain stone store/house faces east in the northeast corner of a triangular-shaped 1.44-acre lot formed by the intersection of Blantyre Road/Route 628 on the front east, north and south and Georgetown Road/Route 674 on the west. Where Blantyre Road curves east opposite the storefront was formerly the Thoroughfare Gap Road, so called because it cuts through Leathercoat and Biscuit mountains at the Prince William County border approximately a mile eastward. An open field with Broad Run's Trap Branch running through it is just to the east of the dirt Blantyre Road opposite the storefront. Charles and Abraham Stover's mill race *once* flowed along this important travel way and turned south at the curve by their store. The ruins of Stover's stone gristmill remain a half mile east below their extant stone miller's house.¹ Bordered by a stone wall, the Carpenter Gothic-style Church of our Savior and Little Georgetown Cemetery are northeast of the store/house. Farmland with an occasional nineteenth-century residence and agricultural building is south of Georgetown Road behind the store's open back yard. An old maple tree stands off the southeast corner of the store/house where a low lamppost remains beside stone steps into the rear yard, the only visible suggestion of a former nineteenth-century dwelling on the south.

Heflin's Store is a three-bay, one-and-one-half-story, stuccoed rubble stone building with a wood-shingled gable roof and an interior-end brick chimney at the rear. Gable-fronting and recently repaired from years of neglect, a new coat of white stucco was applied, leaving some areas of stone exposed to suggest aging. Two six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood windows with board-and-batten shutters flank the centered, double-leaf, board-and-batten door. A cast-iron thumb latch is on the right leaf of the door. A six-over-six, double-hung sash, wood window is in the gable. Wood steps with a plain pressure-treated modern rail lead up to the entrance on this east facade. The stone cellar bulkhead with a double-leaf, board-and-batten door is under the south window. The one-bay, *north side elevation* has an off-center board-and-batten door about seven feet from the rear, directly opposite a similar door on the *south elevation*. The north door has a stone step, while angled wooden ladder steps rise into the entrance on the south side which has no other openings. A boxed wood cornice overhangs on the north and south sides, offering some protection to the masonry walls. The stone foundation of a former shed-roofed lean-to remains on the north side. The *west rear elevation* has no first-story openings. There are two four-light, wood casement windows under the eave, separated by the interior-end chimney.

Interior:

Stone steps lead down from the bulkhead onto the dirt floor of the *full cellar* where the standing-room ceiling joists are hewn. The south stone wall shows some fine repair work which occurred after the invasion of the roots from the southeast maple tree. Although brick above the roof, the foundation of the stone interior-end chimney is on the west rear wall. There is no evidence of a cellar fireplace. Crude modern steps rise from the southwest corner up the back stair to the *primary floor* where the wide pine floor boards are fastened with cut nails. The walls are plastered. A beaded baseboard is only in the rear quarter and stops at a vertical seam in both the south and north side walls, indicating a *former vertical* board partition because no mortises are in the hewn joists above for more substantial framing. This evidence suggests that the rear fireplace-heated chamber with two side doors served as private family quarters, while the plainer front portion contained the merchandise. The hewn ceiling joists were whitewashed in the front of the store while those back of the indicated partition were plastered. There are lathing nail holes in the front joists, however, suggesting a plastered ceiling at some time.

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The boxed stairway in the southwest corner rises up to the *two-chamber garret*. A vertical board partition divides these equally-sized bedchambers. Both chambers have ten-to-twelve-inch-wide pine plank floors. Never finished for lathing or plaster, there are log rafters in the west chamber, indicating a less formal room. The west stone chimney end wall retains a thin plaster coat where "H. N. B., Jr. and July 30th 1891 A.D." are written in black paint to the left-north of the stone chimney, and "H. B." is on top of it. These are the initials of Henry Newlon Brawner, Jr., the son of the elder storeowner from 1895 to 1899, but who occupied the building by 1890. There is no evidence of a fireplace or stove-pipe hole in the chimney to heat this garret. A vertical board wall with a rectangular opening divides the chambers. No door remains here, but the three holes near the top and bottom of the north side of the frame in the west chamber suggest cast-iron butt hinges that enabled its westward swing. The east front chamber has exposed split lath fastened with cut nails on the side walls to the floor and across the ceiling. Rough plaster remains on the east front wall where "H. N. Brawner" is painted in black on the left north side of the six-over-six double-hung sash window. "Tom F. Hamilton 73rd Reg. Ohio Nov 13 1862" is in pencil above Mr. Brawner's name. The area above the window contains added numbers of 315.00 to twenty and thirty equaling 365.00, probably a sale calculation for the store. "Warren W. Hull, 73rd Ohio Vol." penciled his whereabouts, showing that he also took refuge in the store overlooking the Thoroughfare Gap Road during the Civil War. Clear Plexiglas protects the penciling. Visible through open spaces in the lath, the hewn rafters in this east chamber and the log rafters in the west are pegged at the ridge.

Having continued as a general store serving the village of Little Georgetown and the Broad Run community for more than a hundred years since its construction in 1845, Heflin's Store has remained remarkably unchanged and has very good historic integrity in materials, design, workmanship, setting, location, association and feeling. The "high-quality rock was laid in its quarried stage as opposed to being fully dressed with hammers and chisels."² The mortar content consisted entirely of clay with very little to no lime residue. Thus, the stone walls appear to have been intended to receive stucco at the time of construction. Although a traditional evolution of the three-bay-wide, one-and-one-half-story, gable-fronting country store, the former board-and-batten lean-to storage shed on the north side was a mid-twentieth-century feature. Suffering from a lack of maintenance and interfering with recent restoration of the stucco, workers carefully removed the lean-to causing no harm to this unusual stone antebellum store that presently remains in its original form. However, the cement floor and north side foundation serve as evidence of its existence. While the interior partition between the back family quarters and the front merchandising room is gone, the baseboard and smooth plaster wall finish in the rear chamber along with the distinctive impression of the former wall provide clear evidence of the original interior floor plan.

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8. Statement of Significance

Heflin's Store meets two areas of significance in local history relating to the themes of architecture and commerce from 1845 through 1953. Miller Abraham F. Stover brought his wife Rachel with their sons Ralph, Charles and Albert from Pennsylvania to Fauquier County in 1833 and purchased the Trap Branch Mills south of Broad Run in a milling and agricultural village known as George Town. In 1845, Charles Stover hired stonemason John M. Fry to build the community's first store on the triangular lot created by the major crossroads of the Thoroughfare Gap Road and the road from Georgetown to White Plains and Warrenton. Prominently situated with its gable front facing into the village and toward the mill, the antebellum-period country store was extraordinarily constructed of stone rather than with the customary frame or brick structural systems found on identified store/houses of this age and thereafter in the county. Although maintained as a store/house beyond a century, the Stover-Brawner-Heflin Store is further distinguished for remaining in its original form without envelopment by a larger commercial or residential addition. Commercially, the country store provided daily necessities for the surrounding farmers and travelers along the Thoroughfare Gap Road which intensified with the establishment of the Manassas Gap Railroad to the north at Broad Run Station in 1852. The more visible location of the store above the gristmill allowed better retail of the A. F. Stover and C. Stover Flour brands and merchandise imported from the nearest port in Alexandria. The well-preserved Heflin's Store continues to have very good integrity in location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

Justification of Criteria

Heflin's Store is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. The property meets Criterion A for serving as a country store for the milling and agricultural village of Little Georgetown for more than a hundred years without the support of newspaper advertising, the addition of a post office or adaptation for fashion or automobile servicing. Constructed in 1845 in direct association with Stover's Mill that stood about half a mile to the east, this first store in the village contributed commerce to the already established plantation and industrial economy of the small community. Heflin's Store applies to Criterion C for its architectural significance as the solitary surviving example of an unaltered store/house built of stone in Fauquier County which is further distinguished for remaining in its original form, materials and setting. Preserved in excellent condition, the stone store/house represents the recognizable gable-fronting plan, two cells deep, with a traditional early-nineteenth-century store within the forward space of a dwelling. Heflin's Store remains as the significant landmark reminder of the nineteenth-century milling and agricultural village first known as George Town.

Historic Context

Heflin's Store is located in a village initially named George Town that developed in the early nineteenth century at the nucleus of a milling and agricultural settlement on Broad Run west of Thoroughfare Gap. During the westward expansion of Prince William County, the earliest grantees to this fertile Broad Run Valley crossed the Carolina Road and arrived by way of the gap between the Leathercoat and Biscuit mountains of the Bull Run range in 1725. These settlers and their followers soon found the racing waters of Broad Run and the upper and lower forks of its southeast-flowing Trap Branch suitable for gristmills, and there were a dozen within the vicinity by 1815.³ Although Capt. John Frogg appears to have built the first or second earliest gristmill here before 1747 upon the same 1743 land grant that would contain the future Little Georgetown store and village, its precise location remains unclear.⁴

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The necessary travel network from the west, east, north and south for access into the community and transport of produce to ports in the larger towns of Georgetown and Alexandria was well defined by the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The Thoroughfare Gap Road was extended beyond the Pignut Mountain to the Blue Ridge, taking it northwest past White (The) Plains and west to Calmes Gap in 1748.⁵ Mills influenced highway development from the Winchester Road east to Thoroughfare Gap for Jonathan Chapman's mill in 1764. Indicating increasing travel, the Fauquier County court ordered improvements to this now-called Blantyre Road from the Broad Run Meeting House, distanced to the east on Barker's Run on the present Beverley's Mill Road, to the Thoroughfare Mill in 1799 and from the courthouse to Skinker's Trap Branch Mill in 1824.⁶

Typical of English settlement, the hamlet formed on both sides of the main Thoroughfare Gap Road that cut through the northern quarter of Captain Frogg's land grant leaving the plantations outlying, but unlike Salem (Marshall) or the village of Paris, no formal grid plan developed. Planter James Gunnell began buying multiple parcels north of the Gap Road in 1799, and the southern boundary of his 662-acre plantation comprised the northern edge of Little Georgetown, while the opposite south side belonged to James Morgan and William Skinker, owners of the Trap Branch Mills. Gunnell, who applied for an *ad quod damnum* for his own water gristmill at this site in 1813, sold them this land four years later. The account books of Morgan and Skinker indicate the building of another mill at Trap Branch in 1821, and this is believed to be the addition of a sawmill which still existed in the mid-twentieth century.⁷ It could also indicate that the plaster mill was separated from the gristmill. The mills and miller's house appear to have been the first buildings from which supporting trades, meeting houses, a few residences and outbuildings emerged in service to the surrounding plantations.

The 1727-1760 reign of King George II inspired numerous towns named after him in America, including the larger Georgetown established on the Potomac River in 1751, which seems to have caused the occasional attachment of "Little" to the evolving name of this village in Fauquier County. "George Town," first appears in an 1816 deed for four acres of land adjacent to the Trap Branch Mill dam.⁸ Neighboring farmer Edward C. Turner of Kinloch also knew the village as George Town in 1839.⁹ In 1824, a surveyor platted James Gunnell's plantation west and south of Broad Run, north of the Gap Road and Trap Branch for his heirs and placed "L Georgetown" on the plat near the crossroads site of the future Heflin's Store.¹⁰ The surveyor located Skinker's Cooper Shop north of Trap Branch and the main road. This is important because Mr. Gunnell had requested in his will that a stonewall be erected around the graves of himself and his wife that were to be laid near the cooper shop of William Skinker. The shop, graveyard and Gunnell mansion were all located just north of the mills about five tenths of a mile to the east of "L Georgetown" on the main Thoroughfare Gap road.¹¹

Of additional significance to the Little Georgetown community, Mr. Gunnell devised to his neighbors and strangers that may have occasion for it a half acre of land for a cemetery beginning at two black oaks near the cooper shop running towards the mountain for fifty percent of the distance and back again in an oblong square. He probably meant for the line to run to the east toward Biscuit Mountain because of its closer proximity than Pignut Mountain on the west. The creation of the first public cemetery and the cooper shop provide evidence of growing services to meet daily needs in the milling and agricultural community.

The greatest portion of the Gunnell tract and all of the Trap Branch Mill property were separately transferred to a Mennonite family of farmers and pioneer millers who migrated from Pennsylvania in the 1830s. The Stovers would make a major contribution to the vitality of the plantation, industrial and commercial economy of the village beyond the nineteenth-century. Abraham F. Stover brought his wife Rachel Fretz with their sons Ralph, Charles and Albert from Bedminster in Bucks County, Pennsylvania to Fauquier in 1833 and purchased the Trap Branch Mill tract of 135 acres from William Skinker the next year. The family moved into a dwelling at the mill, presumed to be the

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stone miller's house which still stands today.¹² Grandson of German immigrant and Mennonite miller Henry Stauffer of Bedminster, Abraham initially supported his family by grinding grain, manufacturing flour and pulverizing stone for plaster at Trap Branch Mill until a shortness of breath and failing health compromised the strength needed for raising and lowering millstones or climbing steps. He then employed Ralph for two hundred fifty dollars annual wages and Albert for a lesser amount to help as millers, while Charles worked the outlying "indifferent land in very bad condition" for planting.¹³ When commissioners auctioned the lower 270-acre part of Gunnell's property north and west of the mill containing all improvements in 1837, Charles convinced his father to buy it for him because at eighteen he was underage but needed to expand his crop yield and grazing pastures. Immediately taking possession, the increased productivity allowed him to build a barn and repay the entire \$2,767.50 loan plus interest in just two years. Although the Gunnell mansion stood very little distance north of the miller's house where he lived, Charles leased the dwelling to tenants throughout his lifetime.¹⁴

The first church in Georgetown was built in 1838 on Stover land, and the building would later become a school serving the village and neighboring farms. Abraham and Rachel Stover sold just over two acres in the southwest corner of the Trap Branch Mill tract to John Brown that year. Bordered on the west by the road from Georgetown to Warrenton, on the south by the road from New Baltimore to Georgetown and on the east by Trap Branch, Mr. Brown immediately conveyed an acre and a half of this lot to the trustees for the Upper Broad Run Baptist Church. The two-and-one-half-story brick church was immediately constructed. Also called the Old School Baptist Church on occasion, attendees had little distance to walk to baptisms conducted at noon in the branch. Annually in August, the church held all day services on Saturdays and Sundays with country dinners of fried chicken and "Fauquier hams" that attracted villagers and folks from afar including politicians and lawyers.¹⁵ The county established a public school in this church which was operating from the 1870s into the early twentieth century.¹⁶

In 1845, Charles Stover hired stonemason John M. Fry of Salem to build a "stone House on the Gunnell tract - It was built for a Store House" in the triangular lot created by the crossroads of the Gap road and the road from Georgetown to Warrenton. German heritage and proximity to Bull Run Mountain stone probably influenced his choice of masonry material which Charles personally hauled to the building site of the mercantile.¹⁷ Abraham Stover drew up the builder's contract at Stover's Mill where he witnessed the signatures of his son and John Fry. Although neighborhood produce and his father's mill products were carted to Alexandria for sale, the building of a general store at this more prominent location on the major crossroads in the village would allow better retail of the A. F. Stover Flour in addition to establishing a local trading post for the community. Stover's Mill was within short walking distance, but it could not be seen from the crossroads to attract travelers along the Georgetown to Warrenton Road.¹⁸

There do not appear to have been any convenient general stores near Georgetown at the time, so Stover's Store filled a substantial need for villagers. Commercial activity in the town of Warrenton was more than ten miles away. Martin's Gazetteer of 1836 located two mercantile stores in New Baltimore about six miles to the southeast with the second closest village of Salem containing three, approximately eight miles northwest of Little Georgetown. A circa 1800 frame store on Route 674 (030-0172-demolished) and the circa 1820 brick James Hampton Tavern, later Ball's Inn and Store (130-0160), compose the two Martin counted in New Baltimore.¹⁹ Thomas A. Rector apparently was one of the three merchants in Salem since an 1831 deed revealed that he had recently built a brick store house on Lot 18. Merchants Shields & Dixon purchased a brick store/house on Salem Lot 19 in 1836 which they transferred to Daniel Morgan six years later. Sometime between 1851 and 1857, Hugh Chinn converted the store room into living space, and the building remained a dwelling thereafter.²⁰ The third earliest dated store/house in Salem was built on Lot 40 first as a dwelling but had a store added before 1850 and may be the one referenced in the gazetteer. In 1852, the Elliott & Nye Gazetteer listed Hall & Scott, Sylvester Welch and George L. Cochran as Salem merchants. Cochran's Store, established in 1844, was actually the second use within the two-bay stone building originally

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constructed for a doctor's office a decade earlier. Mr. Welch seized Cochran's Store when he failed to pay rent in 1852. John Klepstone (Klipstein) was listed as the sole merchant in New Baltimore that year.²¹ With so few general merchandisers offering goods within a ten-mile range during the mid-nineteenth century, Stover's Georgetown store must have been welcomed by villagers and surrounding farmers who could not afford the loss of time to travel great distances to trade.

After Charles Stover's brother Ralph married his cousin Eliza Stover of Bucks County in 1838, he built a dwelling for himself and his bride next to the miller's house in Little Georgetown. This residence would later be connected to the miller's house as it remains today. Before 1846, he and Eliza returned to Pennsylvania and bought her father Henry's mill on the Tohickon River at Point Pleasant which also had an affiliated store. There seems to have been some exchange of country produce between the mills and stores in Little Georgetown and Point Pleasant that was advantaged by combined transport for sale in Alexandria. Thompson's Wharf between Alexandria's Cameron and Queen streets would receive shipments of a full range of supplies which the proprietor offered at the lowest price on the market. Mr. Thompson advertised sugar, spices, teas, java, cheese, cotton, starch, tobacco, brandies, wines, gin and bales of wrapping twine while he "particularly invite[d] the attention of country merchants" in the mid-nineteenth century.²² No doubt, such advertisements attracted Charles Stover who undertook the hauling by team himself of his produce and packaged flour on many trips to the port city. A haul to the Alexandria market always required trading for a return load of supplies to resell at the store for efficiency of time and convenience.²³ Even as a teenager, Albert acted as principal clerk in the Little Georgetown store in addition to working at Stover's Mill.²⁴ Being Pennsylvanian Germans and Mennonites, the Stovers would not own slaves. Whether working in the fields, at the mills or within the store, the family labored and was supported minimally by hired hands only.²⁵

Nearing sixty with disappointing annual losses at the mill caused by the overbearing cost of wages and other operating debts, Abraham coerced Charles into buying and managing the miller's operation in 1846. Although he was at first reluctant because he did not believe that flouring mills were profitable, Charles realized that his father's health was further deteriorating, and his elder brother could not return to help under any circumstances. He ultimately decided that his own good physical condition would enable better management and turnaround the losses. The ownership transition of the mills changed the flour brand from "A. F. Stover" to "C. Stover." Combining the acreage of the mill tract and his farm with buildings on both, the cash value of this 405-acre plantation was listed as \$8,100 with an additional \$1,002 livestock value in the 1850 agricultural census and \$10,000 in the population census.²⁶ The next year, the Manassas Gap Railroad Company purchased over two acres of land, being nineteen hundred feet long and sixty feet deep spanning much of the breadth of the former Gunnell track from Charles Stover. Neighboring farmers along the route also accepted damage monies, and rapid construction allowed trains from Alexandria to stop at Broad Run Station below Beverley's Mill and reach The Plains in 1852. Although the farmers had lost portions of their crop and grazing land, they realized the expediency of export rail shipping of their produce and acquisition of return supplies to the milling and agricultural society and for sale at Stover's Store.²⁷ Never-married, Charles and his mother continued to live together in the miller's house at Trap Branch Mill after the deaths of Abraham in February at sixty-seven and twenty-six-year-old Albert in December of 1854.²⁸

During the Civil War, the Confederate and Federal armies both passed by Stover's Store and mill on the Thoroughfare Gap Road including Mosby's, Lee's, Jackson's, Longstreet's, Stahl's, Stuart's and Torbert's.²⁹ Significantly, within days of the heavy action on the Thoroughfare Gap Battlefield, Sgt. Thomas F. Hamilton and Pvt. Warren W. Hull of the 73rd Ohio Infantry penciled their names, regiment and "Nov. 13, 1862" on the plastered wall beside the east gable window in Stover's Store. The infantrymen were obviously standing watch over the Thoroughfare Gap Road on the very day Edward Turner of nearby Kinloch wrote in his diary that Federal troops were still occupying Hopewell and Thoroughfare gaps. Turner recorded earlier on August 29th that Stover's Mill was a hospital for wounded Confederates felled at the Thoroughfare battle ground.³⁰ Thomas F. Hamilton had

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enlisted in Company I of the 73rd as a corporal at the age of twenty-two in December of 1861 and was promoted to a full sergeant the following September. He finished the war as a full lieutenant first class in Louisville, Kentucky. Warren W. Hull joined Company I at the age of twenty-four in May of 1862 and made sergeant the month after their Stover's Store refuge. Also surviving the war, he mustered out in June of 1865 in the District of Columbia. Company I was stationed at Centerville and Fairfax Court House from May through October 1862. During the month of November when Sergeant Hamilton and Private Hull marked their presence in Stover's Store, the regiment was said to be stationed near Falmouth in the Official Records.³¹ If the store could remain open during the Civil War, it surely provided rations for passing and sick soldiers, perhaps hospitably or forcefully, until its shelves could no longer receive stock due to unsafe and blocked roads as well as the destruction of the railroad at Broad Run Station.

Enlisted by Colonel Mosby into Company A of the 43rd Battalion Virginia Cavalry at the age of sixteen in 1864, auburn-haired Henry Newlon Brawner was reportedly his youngest ranger.³² The Redman F. Brawners had taken refuge in northern Fauquier when their Manassas farm became a battleground. Private Brawner is pictured individually in Williamson's *Mosby's Rangers*, and within the group portrait of living members of the battalion taken during the second reunion at Marshall in August of 1895.³³ The young private must have passed by Stover's Store through Georgetown on many occasions with Mosby's men. Returning to Fauquier after the war, Private Brawner rented Stover's Store before January of 1884 but would not purchase the property for eleven more years. His mercantile was listed in business directories under "General Store, H. N. Brawner in Broad Run," the regional name for Georgetown.³⁴ By then, Henson's wheelwright shop and the village's cattle scales were south of the store near the Upper Broad Run Baptist Church.³⁵ In 1886, just ten years after Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone, Brawner became an organizer, director and secretary of the Warrenton, Plains and Alexandria Telephone Company which formed to construct and operate the first lines in Fauquier, Prince William, Fairfax and Alexandria counties. Supplementing his mercantile income by becoming a lineman himself, the local newspaper reported that the merchant repaired telephone lines after a lightning storm hit Orange in March of 1897. He also supervised and participated in the construction of lines from Markham to Orlean and from the Warrenton Springs to Jeffersonton and Amissville.³⁶

Merchants were among the most highly respected and familiar individuals in Fauquier County well into the mid-twentieth century. Their recognition and integrity often placed them in positions of community service. Following establishment of the first telephone company, Henry Brawner was among the founders of the Greenwood Cemetery in 1887 before its renaming to the Georgetown Cemetery for the Episcopal Church of Our Savior three years later. The seven board members of the cemetery company all lived within or on farms surrounding Georgetown where the chief office was to be situated. Their charter called for the acquisition of no more than ten acres of land in or near Georgetown to lay out the cemetery. Located north and east of the store, the three acres of land for this second public graveyard and church in the village were granted by director William Beverley from his purchase of Trap Branch Farm from the late Charles Stover's brother, Ralph. The existing bounds and those platted in 1912 of the Little Georgetown Cemetery do not appear to adjoin the portion of the former James Gunnell tract where he designated the first public burial ground that no longer exists, if it ever materialized.³⁷ The division of his land in two chancery suits ending in 1830 only referred to James Gunnell's private cemetery. His broken tombstone was recently found in the cornfield very near his graveyard that was shown on the 1824 plat.

Mr. Brawner began advertising his general store property for sale in April of 1898. He stated that it was in "Little Georgetown, near Broad Run Station, consisting of [a] Store-House, Dwelling with 9 rooms, all necessary Out-buildings, and 3 ½ acres improved land . . . This is a good business place and will be sold cheap."³⁸ The referenced dwelling formerly stood on the south side of the store, while the frame barns were in the rear until the late 1990s. The storekeeper's interest in the more exciting and promising communications field that would involve long distance

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traveling over country roads may have been the greater cause of his decision to sell the stone store/house property serving the surrounding plantation and industrial economy.

However, Little Georgetown was not considered one of the most thriving villages in the county in 1898, being diminished by Upperville, Paris, Markham, Rectortown, New Baltimore, Midland, Bealeton and Somerville. While all of these settlements serviced surrounding farmers similarly to Little Georgetown, they received additional support from the establishment of a post office, at least one tavern and/or having a train station within their perimeters. Joseph Neavil's Ordinary, founded in the mid-eighteenth century on the Winchester Road near Bethel, was the closest tavern to Little Georgetown. Before 1899, the postmaster general approved three post office applications within six miles of the Georgetown village. The first was created in 1854 about a mile to the northeast at Broad Run Station on the new railroad track below Beverley's Mill. Requested to serve about thirty-eight families residing within a two-mile radius, this circumference, of course, included Little Georgetown. Both formed in 1898, Norris Post Office was distanced just three miles south, and Bethel Academy emerged six miles to the southeast.³⁹ The establishment of post offices in various communities across the county typically occurred in country or general stores in rural areas which boosted their economy. The Little Georgetown store/house would not enjoy this benefit, but its loss does not appear to have greatly diminished the length of its 125 years of survival.

In the late-nineteenth century, the known retail establishments in the small village of Little Georgetown consisted of H. N. Brawner's General Store, a cooper's shop, Thomas Henson's Blacksmith/wheelwright Shop (which also carried some general merchandise) and Stover's Mill. Twelve principal Broad Run farmers on landed estates surrounded and supported Brawner's Store including William Beverley of Beverley & Son's Plaster Mill, William Smith, A. W. Strother, Thomas Henderson, James K. Skinker of Huntley, W. H. Lewis and Robert McCarty. Henson's shop was situated to the south of H. N. Brawner's Store on the corner of the Georgetown and Warrenton Road and the road from Georgetown to New Baltimore. Stover's Corn and Flour Mill and Stover's Saw and Planing Mill still operated on Trap Branch under the ownership of Robert C., Ralph's son.⁴⁰ Of the Broad Run mills established in the eighteenth century, only Beverley's, formerly Chapman's, and Stover's Trap Branch Mills, originally Gunnell's, survived to conduct business into the mid-twentieth century.

H. N. Brawner publicly auctioned his personal possessions and store merchandise at Broad Run Station on Tuesday, the 9th of May 1899. Sale items included a Number Eight cook stove, two Woodlawn stoves, four coal stoves, agricultural machinery, one horse, a cow, "A lot of merchandise, consisting of Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Tinware, Queensware, Hard'are and Notions, 2 oil tanks, Fairbank's scales, and a good many other articles."⁴¹ By this time, the local newspaper referred to the village as Little Georgetown but listed its community news under "Broad Run Items."⁴² Henry Newlon Brawner had taken charge of the Warrenton, Plains and Alexandria Telephone Company and relocated to Warrenton when the store sold to former Bethel Academy postmaster Edgar W. Heflin on the 10th of January 1899.⁴³

Now, called Heflin's Store, Edgar focused on general merchandising. The store continued as a community gathering place frequented by familiar families and travelers leaving the Broad Run Depot by way of the Thoroughfare Gap Road through Georgetown. The Broad Run population was seventy-five in 1917 when Heflin wrote that he sold "16 Rats, 4 minks and 8 cats" on the plaster ceiling in the east front room of the second floor.⁴⁴ This was found beside H. N. Brawner's "3 muscrats, 3 minks, 4 cats, 7 grouse, 10 raccoons, 30 beavers, July 30, 1891 H. N. B., Jr." Mr. Heflin took advantage of country store marketing tools by purchasing full-page advertisements in *The Ladies Birthday Almanac for the Year 1901*.⁴⁵ One of these pamphlets was recently discovered upon removal of plywood from the boarded-up fireplace along with a color pattern sheet for a gentlemen's morning coat. In this turn-of-the-century period, the store was advertised under the merchant's name, "Medicines Advertised in the Pamphlet are for Sale by E. W. Heflin, Broad Run, Virginia. Dealer in Dry Goods,

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Groceries, Hardware, Medicines, Hats, Caps, Boots and Ready-Made Clothing. Country Produce Bought and Sold. We Want your trade in everything you need. Our Prices are the lowest."⁴⁶

Since his store was not located in a town such as Marshall or Warrenton, it had no nearby competition to encourage newspaper advertising, and no ads were found by any owner throughout its commercial history. Mr. Heflin and the earlier storekeepers of this country market would more likely rely on word-of-mouth, printed handbills and such almanacs so expenses were partly supported by the product brand or wholesaler. The stock sold separately by Brawner and Heflin was typical of provisions merchandised by country stores across America in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. These merchants strived to fill the general necessities of daily living in agricultural communities where hard-working folks were removed from town conveniences by long dirt roads and lengthy hours laboring in the fields. E. W. Heflin's business licenses demonstrate that he was authorized to sell tobacco which he sold along with the additional items of Shenandoah Valley Milk, Crescent Candy, Vanity Fair Hats, Wear-Well Pants, Proctor and Gamble soaps, Coca-Cola, locally-made flour from the mills of Stover and Beverley, Prince William Baked Goods and Hamilton Brown Shoes.⁴⁷ Overextended to a list of creditors including Beverley Roller Mills and Riverton Lime Company, Heflin's Store was auctioned and bought by Edgar's son Carlton in 1926. Carlton practiced law and had no interest in operating the store, but he wished to help his father which was a tradition begun by Charles Stover nearly a century earlier. Although situated in a prime location for pull-off travelers in addition to providing fuel for local tractors and cars, Mr. Heflin appears to have resisted the trend to add service pumps or a canopy unlike the many country stores across America that adapted to the automobile age. Edgar maintained the little market until his death in 1945, when his wife stepped in. As time passed, she kept sporadic hours by taking advantage of living in their next door home and knowing full well that local customers would come get her when they wanted groceries and supplies.⁴⁸ Although the last of the Stovers had silenced the mills which fire claimed in September of 1961, the Little Georgetown farmers enjoyed the material and social conveniences of Heflin's Store into the 1970s.⁴⁹

Architectural Significance of a Stone Store/House in Fauquier County

Gable-facing to the main road, three-bays-wide and a story-and-a-half tall, the stone store/house retains the recognizable form of a typical early-nineteenth-century country market within the forward space of a dwelling. There is a combination of commercial and residential features in this economical form. The commercial area was seventeen feet three inches wide by fifteen feet, being larger than the nearly twelve-foot-deep living space in the back chamber of the first floor. The greater retail floor area indicates the precedence of the commercial use over the secondary provision of a residence. Openings, including the centered entrance with a board-and-batten door flanked by six-over-six double-hung sash windows, are restricted to the front wall of the one-room-deep store space. This allowed for the display of merchandise on wooden shelves above counters along the unbroken side walls that were illuminated by natural light from the east front. The walls in the store are roughly finished plaster, and the hewn ceiling joists with a white-wash residue indicate the original informality of the commercial space. A horizontal shelf line can still be seen on the north side wall. The pine floor boards measure about eight- to-twelve inches wide and show heavy wear while remaining sound, except for a few recent center replacements in kind.

The near proximity of the bulkhead cellar entrance just outside the front door to the market enabled quick access to supplies stored there prior to the addition of the mid-twentieth-century, shed-roofed, storage wing on the north side. Such side storage additions represent a typical evolution of small early-nineteenth-century store/houses as space was a premium commodity for the multi-use building.⁵⁰ These wings sheltered extra stock and oversize items including lumber, paints, kerosene, tractor maintenance supplies, tools, agricultural implements, tobacco, barrels of nails and seeds along with neighborhood farm produce. An attached, circa 1900, photograph of the store/house shows the frame storage shed with a starch sign above its entrance as well as an uncovered porch floor standing on stone piers

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across the front elevation of the building. A frame barn behind a picket fence stands behind the store to the northwest, and another outbuilding appears behind the southwest corner. These buildings are not extant today.

The private first-floor living space for the storekeeper was confined to the rear cell formerly divided by a vertical board partition with a door for access to the front shop. These family quarters display greater formality of design through the comfort of a fireplace for heat, along with the application of a beaded baseboard, the smoothly-finished plastered walls and no whitewash on the ceiling joists because the ceiling was plastered in Period I. On the coldest of days, the merchant probably opened the door in the partition to allow some heat into the front store room because it had no other means. The storekeeper and his family could depart from the doors on the north and south sides of the living quarters without walking through the storefront. The north door would later open into the shed-roofed storage wing which offered the double convenience of a dry shelter for firewood, and the merchant could also bring in back stock for the store in bad weather. The necessity for two exterior doors in this small private family room when first constructed raised some doubt of the authenticity of both. Yet, the stone work indicates no evidence of alteration, and the correlating member could have been as much for symmetry of the late Federal period as for future expansion.

Demonstrating an efficiency in defining precious space and a traditional design of the early nineteenth century, a boxed stairway with only two steps on the floor in the southwest corner of the back residence chamber leads up into the unheated garret. The always exposed unfinished log joists in the west chamber here suggest that this served as the counting room for the store below while the fully plastered east chamber beyond the vertical board partition was a bedroom. However, the discovery of the penciled accounts of both merchants Brawner and Heflin on the plaster ceiling in the east chamber contradicts this theory. Perhaps this colder room without a fireplace below became the more appropriate counting room in addition to a bedchamber.

Other than the understandable addition of a storage wing, owners of this gable-roofed rural village store/house were not pressured by adjacent competitors and national trends to update the storefront with display windows when plate glass became more affordable or to apply a false façade in the late-nineteenth century, unlike in-town retailers. Of course, the false-front would have been misplaced on a stuccoed stone country store of which very few appear to have been built in Fauquier County where frame gable-fronting rural markets dominated. Four architectural surveys conducted since 1936 have identified only five original stone store/houses in the county.⁵¹ However, just one, Heflin's Store, has not been heavily altered, overwhelmed by additions or completely destroyed.

The circa 1836 James R. Payne Store (30-613) still stands on Route 611, Sowego Road, near Catlett in the lower end of Fauquier. Originally built on Mr. Payne's Brenton Plantation as a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay-wide, gable-fronting, coursed-stone store/house at the crossroads to Haymarket, Dumfries and Falmouth, trading continued until about 1900. The building then served as a residence until 1957. Neglected and overgrown for the next thirty years, Gracie and Phil Finkle rescued the former store and fairly sympathetically attached a two-story, frame house in 1989. The coursed, blocked and quarried Bull Run Mountain red sandstone in Payne's Store does represent fine masonry workmanship as further shown in the heavy rectangular door and window lintels that are distinguished by a separate keystone above. This technique demonstrates that this building was never intended to receive stucco, unlike the Stover-Brawner-Heflin Store in Georgetown. The interior plan of Payne's Store also included a front market and a fireplace-heated rear residence, but the box stairs are in the corner of the partition wall between the two chambers. The placement of the stairs in the corner of the rear chimney wall in Heflin's Store yielded slightly larger living quarters as it provided greater merchandising space than the location of the steps in Payne's Store. The store portion of this Brenton Plantation store has now been converted into a kitchen with a dining room inserted in the back on the primary floor. A bedroom and sitting room with closets are on the second floor. Judging by the quality of stonework which oral tradition attributes to Mr. Payne and his slaves, his store appears to represent a

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gentleman farmer, whereas the stuccoed rubble-stone Stover's Store implies no pretense beyond its utility as a village market further attracting the occasional gap road traveler. Now rehabilitated and standing within the compound plan of a residence, few would realize today that this stone wing had once been an early nineteenth-century store. However, the Stover-Brawner-Heflin Store remains unattached in its original exterior form and setting.⁵²

The second former three-bay, gable-fronting, stone store located at the intersection of Routes 710 and 713 in Rectortown is also contemporary to Heflin's. Presently called the Brick Store and functioning as a residence, this three-and-one-half-story building appears to have begun as a single-story stone structure constructed with an L-plan, three bays deep to the rear three-bay-wide ell. Sometime later, a second story occurred in brick followed still later by another story and a half in brick. This heavily-evolved masonry building has functioned as a store, post office and tavern. The stone bottom story is uncoursed rubble, and six-over-six windows flank a double-leaf glazed door. Although the brick stories may have attained significance in time, the integrity of the first-period stone store/house has been compromised leaving the impression that the building is, as presently named on its ground sign, the "Brick Store," not the Stone Store.⁵³

The third stone masonry store was built by Alfred Rector who purchased a Rectortown lot in 1850 and constructed a rambling one-story, stuccoed-stone building. Upon striking a deal to allow a right of way for the Manassas Gap Railroad through the property, he added a warehouse, telegraph office and depot to the store within two years. The stuccoed building with an awkwardly-joined double-gable roof, further crowned with a hipped observatory, stands within feet of the tracks. Bearing no resemblance to the gable-fronting, three-bay-wide, one-story, stuccoed-stone Heflin's Store which Charles Stover had stonemason John Fry build in 1845, this 1850-52 Rector's (also known as Pierce's) Store conveys little associative value to it.

The last stone building known to have been constructed as a store/house in Fauquier County is the John Fox Store in Opal on Route 663. Louise Lewis surveyed this 1838 "John Fox Store and Home" for the WPA on the 27th of August 1936, noting that it was situated about two miles from Opal on Route 663 and stood three stories tall. However, a recent survey for this nomination all along the road and through the fields looking for the Fox's Store identified as number 293 on the Virginia Historical Inventory Map of Fauquier found no extant building meeting this description. Therefore, it appears to have either been demolished or destroyed by fire after the 1930s and before the MacLeod survey beginning in 1978.⁵⁴

A stone building that later became George L. Cochran's Store and the Salem Post Office years after doctors James H. Lufborough and John R. Pugh had it constructed in circa 1831 on Lot 29 for their medical office still stands as previously mentioned. However, it was not included in the five evaluated above because it was built in form and function as a doctor's office. Presently, a weatherboarded frame wing is attached to the east side of this two-bay-wide, one-story, gable-roofed, uncoursed rubble-stone building which appears to be only one-cell deep.⁵⁵

Thus, the Stover-Brawner-Heflin Store possesses historic significance as the solitary surviving example of a store/house built of stone in Fauquier County in the antebellum period that retains its original form, materials and setting. Unlike the three extant surveyed nineteenth-century store/houses composed of stone, only Heflin's Store has not been absorbed into a residence or larger commercial building. Making this store at Little Georgetown still more remarkable is that its four proprietors, counting Edgar's wife who continued the market after his death, resisted competitive pressures to grow with the industrial revolution or follow other national movements to architecturally alter or update the building. Its windows were never enlarged or glazed for displays, the gable front remains without evidence of a false facade or parapet, and Edgar Heflin never added gasoline pumps or a canopy for automobile service in the early or mid-twentieth century. The last refusal to change seems the most extraordinary when this

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rural market stood as the sole supplier of goods and services for the villagers and Broad Run area south of the John Marshall Highway and west of the Alexandria Road and New Baltimore until reaching the town of Warrenton. Even without this modern convenience, the Little Georgetown store served the village until the 1970s after operating for 125 years. Its closure occurred about twenty-six years after the Stover family had ceased milling during World War II.³⁶

Heflin's Store is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hazel, Jr. who reside southwest of Little Georgetown at Huntley. The Hazels recently repaired the substantial bulge on the south side and the disintegrated stone cellar bulkhead on the front southeast corner of the store. The deteriorated board-and-batten frame lean-to on the north side was removed, and the white stucco finish on all exterior elevations was restored in kind. Preserved in excellent condition with a new Heflin's Store sign above the entrance, the 1845 stone store/house is the prominent landmark reminder, along with the Episcopal Church of Our Savior and Georgetown Cemetery, of the nineteenth-century milling and agricultural village originally called George Town. Since commuters are increasingly finding Blantyre Road as a faster and more scenic detour from the stalled morning and evening rush-hour traffic on Route 29, this country store may rise again.

ENDNOTES

¹ Aerial Photograph, Fauquier County, FG 12150, Can 363, Washington, D. C., National Archives and Records Administration, 1 May 1937.

² Stonemason G. Edward Ashby, <Sashsaw@aol.com>, "Heflin's Store," email to Cheryl Shepherd, 3 January 2002; 2 September 2003.

³ Fauquier County Clerk's Loose Papers, Mill Series, 1787-002 *William Skinker vs. John Ringoe*, Declaration with Deposition of Bernard Hooe: John Ringoe contracted to build a double grist mill for William Skinker who brought suit against him because he felt the placement of the Mill was incorrect, 15 April 1784; FC CLP Road Series, 1798-004 Viewers' Report of a road from White Plains to Whiting's Mill and to the Thoroughfare Mill, July 1798; FC CLP, Land Records & Disputes, 1809-004 *Herman Utterback's Lessee vs. George Kemper*. This suit contains the indenture dated 25 July 1747 in which Capt. John Frogg reserved fifty acres for the use of a Water Grist Mill built by him from the sale of 1,509 acres on Broad Run and its branches to Rev. James Keith; FC CLP, Mill Series, 1813-006 AQD Request of James Morgan for a dam for his Water Grist Mill on Trap Branch, 1 February 1813; FC CLP, Mill Series 1811-003 Charles Peyton's Mill Papers on Broad Run, 25 November 1811; FC CLP Mill Series 1813-013 Chandler Peyton's Water Grist Mill on Broad Run Petition, 16 January 1813; FC CLP Mill Series, 1813-014 James Gunnell's Water Grist Mill on Broad Run Petition, 30 June 1813; Fauquier County Deed Book 5, page 501 Lease, Henry Peyton to Sylvester Welch, 26 September 1772; FC Deed Book 18, page 147, Chandler Peyton to Sylvester Welch, 1811; FC Deed Book 17, page 469, George and Mary Deneale to James Gunnell ninety-three-and-one-half acres resurveyed to sixty-six-and-one-quarter acres except for the Mill Seat to be retained by Deneale, 20 June 1809; FC Deed Book 21, page 246, James Gunnell of Fauquier County to William Skinker, Jr., William Morgan for himself & as Administrator of James Morgan, nine acres on Trap Branch with the several meanders of the New Mill race to the corner purchase of Thomas Dawson, 31 March 1817; FC Deed Book 22, page 75, Richard H. Henderson and Thomas Henderson, Executors of Alexander Henderson, dec'd to James Gunnell, 150 acres called the Leathercoat Tract beginning on the mountain corner to Jonathan Chapman and George Nevill, now George Chapman . . . to a stone in Chapman's mill race at the corner of Chapman and Gunnell, 9 October 1817.

⁴ FC CLP, Land Records & Disputes, 1809-004 with Frogg's 25 July 1747 indenture to Rev. James Keith but reserving fifty acres for the use of the gristmill he had already built on his 1743 land grant from Lord Fairfax. Receiving his land grant in 1742, Jonathan Chapman's mill (later Beverley's) has long been assumed as the first mill, but its date has not been confirmed. Since his grant preceded Capt. Frogg's who could have constructed his mill immediately or by 1747, the possibility still exists that Chapman built his first.

⁵ Act of Assembly, October 1748, enabling Prince William County justices to levy tobacco to cover the expense of clearing a road from the Pignut Mountain to the Blue Ridge in William Waller Hening, *The Statutes at Large*, vol. 6 (Richmond, The Franklin Press, 1819), 210; Fairfax Harrison, *Landmarks of Old Prince William*, vol. 1-2 (Richmond, Virginia: Old Dominion Press, 1924; 2nd Reprint, Baltimore, Maryland: Gateway Press, Inc., 1987), 257, 262-63, 468.

⁶ Fauquier County Clerk's Loose Papers, Mill Series, 1799-009 Appointment of Overseers and Tithes to keep the road from Broad Run Meeting House to Thoroughfare Mill; FC CLP Road Series, 1764-006 Bradford, Benjamin et al. Petition for a road from Lazarous (Lazarus) Taylor's to Chapman's Mill; FC CLP Road Series, 1824-013 Skinker, William Road Petition for improvement to his mill from the courthouse; Harrison, 468.

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⁷ FC CLP Mills, 1813-006 AQD for consideration of damages for erection of James Gunnell's Water Gristmill; Fauquier County Deed Book 21, page 246, nine acres on Trap Branch and the Main Road following the several meanders of the "New millrace," 1 May 1817; Fauquier County Deed Book 26, page 246, William Morgan and his wife Elizabeth of Lynchburg to William Skinker of Fauquier, their half interest in a certain 133 acres more or less with the mill and appurtenances thereon as allotted them in the division of real estate belonging to the late James and William Morgan that formerly belonged to James and William Morgan and William Skinker together, 13 December 1821; James and William Morgan, Clover Hill (Fauquier County) Account Book 1814-1822, 110, 115 and 151, Mss5:3 C6255:1, Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Virginia.

⁸ Fauquier County CLP, Land Records & Disputes, Unrecorded Deed 1816-013 Dawson, Thomas and wife Ann to Skinker, William, Jr. and Morgan, William. Thomas and Ann Dawson paid two hundred dollars to William Skinker and William Morgan for four acres of land "lying on Trap Branch Run beginning at the Mill dam of said Skinker & Morgan on Said Run and running with Said Mill Dam to the Road leading from George Town to the Pignut Mountain, thence with said Road to the Fork leading to New Baltimore, thence with the New Baltimore Road to Trap Branch Run, thence down the Run to the Mill Dam."

⁹ Edward C. Turner, "Diary of Edward C. Turner of Kinloch," vol. 1, 18 March 1839 - 29 August 1850 (Transcript, Thomas Turner Association, P. O. Box 168, The Plains, Virginia, 1997), 35. On the 21st of July 1839, Mr. Turner wrote that he spent the afternoon at Avenel where he met Robert Beverley from George Town.

¹⁰ The 1824 plat is in Fredericksburg Superior Court of Chancery, Spotsylvania District, 112-06 *Gunnell, George W. vs. Gunnell, George*, ending 18 May 1830. The surveyor did not draw the Trap Branch Mills on the plat since the mill lot was not within the Gunnell boundary but comparison to Jed Hotchkiss's March 1863 map of Fauquier County and the distinct plat of the mills in FC DB 142, page 390 regarding William Beverley's land in which the mill lot with building was reserved to Stover, helped reveal the location of the cooper shop just northwest of the mills. The cooper shop, Gunnell's house and graveyard site are now lost in the plowed cornfield.

¹¹ Ibid; Fauquier County Will Book 7, page 236, Last Will and Testament of James Gunnell, dated 30 August 1818, recorded 25 January 1819. According to his tombstone found in the cornfield by Jack Hazel, James Gunnell died on 1 January 1819.

¹² Fauquier County Deed Book 34, page 339, William Skinker and wife Harriet of Fauquier to Abraham F. Stover of Fauquier, 13 October 1834. Skinker sells unto said Stover his mill known and called by the name of Trap Branch Mill and all land attached to it containing 135 acres and lying on the waters of Trap Branch Run; Answer of Defendant Charles Stover, Administrator of Abraham F. Stover, dec'd, 16 August 1859 and Deposition of Sampson P. Bayly, witness for the Plaintiff, interviewed by Samuel Chilton, 17 August 1860 in Fauquier County Clerk's Loose Papers, Chancery Suit 1861-002 *Fretz, Isaac & wife Catharine Stover vs. Stover, Abraham F.'s Adm'r. Charles Stover*.

¹³ Charles Stover's Answer, 16 August 1859 & Bayly's Dep. 17 August 1860; *U. S. Census, Fauquier County Population Schedule, 1850*.

¹⁴ Charles Stover's Answer, 16 August 1859.

¹⁵ Fauquier County Deed Book 38, page 188, Abraham Stover and wife Rachel of Fauquier to John Brown of same, two-and-one-quarter acres of land adjoining Richard Henderson, James Lewis, John Brooke and said Stover, 24 February 1838; Fauquier County Deed Book 38, page 55, John Brown and wife Matilda to Henry M. Lewis and James B. Shackelford, Trustees of the Upper Broad Run Baptist Church, one-and-one-half acres adjacent to Henderson, the road and James Lewis, 24 February 1838; P. A. L. Smith, *Fauquier County, Virginia Memories (Boyhood Memories of Fauquier)* (Hartford, Kentucky: McDowell Publications, 1979), 87-91.

¹⁶ H. D. Gardner, *A Map of Fauquier County, Virginia, 1876*; Shelly Hazel, Bill Lewis, Nellie Lewis to author, 8 August 2002.

¹⁷ John Fry's Deposition, 31 August 1860, Charles Stover's Answer, 16 August 1859 and Deposition of Sampson P. Bayly, 17 August 1860; "Henry Stauffer," grandfather of Abraham F. Stover - with history of the family, <<http://awt.ancestry.com>> citing A. J. Fretz, Stauffer-Stover Family History (Pennsylvania: Harleysville News, 1899).

¹⁸ Clover Hill Account Book 1814-1822, 27, 156; Bayly Deposition.

¹⁹ Joseph Martin, *A New and Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia and the District of Columbia* (Charlottesville, Virginia: Joseph Martin, 1836), 171-75; Thomas H. Taylor, Jr., "Old Store" in New Baltimore, Route 674, VDHR File No. 30-172; Fauquier County Store and Storehouse Surveys, Cynthia MacLeod 1978-1983, Thomas H. Taylor 1972, 1999, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Surveys, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, DSS Inventory; Maral S. Kalbian, "Final Report for Survey Update of Historic Properties in Fauquier County, Virginia December 2000 - March 2002," for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and Fauquier County Department of Community Development, 20 March 2002, 17-228.

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²⁰ John K. Gott, *High in Old Virginia's Piedmont: A History of Marshall (formerly Salem), Fauquier County, Virginia* (Marshall, Virginia: Marshall National Bank & Trust Company, 1987), 29, 155-204.

²¹ *Elliott & Nye's Virginia Directory and Business Register for 1852* (Richmond, Virginia: Elliott & Nye, Printers, 1852), 38-39.

²² William W. H. Davis, *History of Bucks County, Pennsylvania*, vol. 3 (New York: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1905), 427. The state of Pennsylvania established the Ralph Stover State Park for his enduring ownership of the two-hundred-year-old Stover's Mill which he purchased in 1841. Ironically, but not surprisingly for an abandoned mill, this Tobickon River Stover's Mill was destroyed by fire in the mid-twentieth century at about the same time as its so-named counterpart in Fauquier County; "Thompson's Wharf Between Cameron & Queen Streets Alexandria," *The Piedmont Whig*, 4 February 1854.

²³ Bayly Deposition.

²⁴ Bayly Deposition; Frances B. Foster, "Mill Cottage," Works Progress Administration, Virginia Historical Inventory, Library of Virginia, 1937.

²⁵ John Walter Wayland, *The German Element of the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia* (Charlottesville, Virginia: John W. Wayland, Publisher, The Michie Company Printers, 1907), 180-183; Bayly Deposition and Stover's Answer.

²⁶ Charles Stover's Answer and Bayly Deposition. Mr. Bayly noted the change in the flour label. Charles indicated in his answer that as soon as the final settlement of the mill occurred with his father, the "Memorandum of Agreement and other papers respecting the Trap Branch Mill purchase were destroyed because they were not deemed useful thereafter;" *U. S. Census, Fauquier County Agricultural Schedule, 1850; Population Schedule, 1850*.

²⁷ Fauquier County Deed Book 51, page 22, *Manassas Gap Rail Road Company vs. Charles Stover*, damages possessed, 4 April 1851; Southern Railway System, *A Century of Service to Fauquier County* (S.I.: Published by Southern Railway System in honor of Fauquier County's Bicentennial Celebration, 1959), 8.

²⁸ Stover's Answer and Bayly Deposition. Mr. Bayly deposed that he had known the Stovers since about 1840 and "all of the family lived in the same house at Trab Branch Mill;" *U. S. Census Fauquier County Population 1850* lists Albert F. Stover as being twenty-one; "Died on the 17th of December 1854 in Fauquier County, ALBERT F. STOVER in the 26th year of his life," *The Alexandria Gazette*, 15 January 1855; Patricia B. Duncan, *Fauquier County, Virginia Death Register 1853-1896* (Westminster, Maryland: Willow Bend Books, 1998), 112. This death register offers that Albert died at the age of seventeen with his brother Charles acting as informant.

²⁹ Eugene M. Scheel, *The Civil War in Fauquier* (Waterford, Virginia: Eugene M. Scheel, 1985), 25-27, 30-31, 37, 40-41, 47, 55, 59, 85; Edward C. Turner, "Diary of Edward C. Turner of Kinloch," vol. 4, 17 August 1862 - 1 May 1863 (Transcript, Thomas Turner Association, P. O. Box 168, The Plains, Virginia, 1997), 6-7.

³⁰ Turner Diary, vol. 4, 7, 24.

³¹ <Ancestry.com> Civil War Records citing: Ohio Roster Commission, *Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio in the War of the Rebellion 1861-1866*, compiled under the direction of the Roster Commission, published by the authority of the General Assembly (Akron: Werner Co., 1866-1895); Janet B. Hewett, ed., *Supplement to the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, Part 2 - Record of Events, vol. 3, serial 65 (Wilmington, North Carolina: Broadfoot Publishing Company, 1997), 664-665.

³² "Mr. H. N. Brawner Dies in Arlington County," *The Fauquier Democrat*, 20 February 1932; Hugh C. Keen and Horace Mewborn, *43rd Battalion Virginia Cavalry Mosby's Command* (Lynchburg, Virginia: H. E. Howard, Inc., 1993), 300.

³³ James J. Williamson, *Mosby's Rangers: A Record of the Operations of the Forty-third Battalion to the Surrender* (New York: Ralph B. Kenyon Publisher, 1896), 45, 134, 500.

³⁴ Fauquier County Deed Book 86, page 38, William and Fannie S. Beverley to H. N. Brawner, two lots in the village of Little Georgetown being cut off from the Trap Branch Farm formerly owned by Charles Stover. The first lies between the Mill Race and the County road to Thoroughfare Gap, containing two and one-half acres. The second lot containing about one acre on which the stone store house, dwelling and outbuildings now stand lies west of the County road leading to Warrenton, 27 March 1895; Fauquier County Deed Book 74, page 440, John P. Slaughter and wife Kate F. of Fauquier to John T. Cockerill of Fauquier, two acres and four-and-one-quarter poles adjacent to the corner of Brawner, 1 January 1884. Since this deed is dated the first of January 1884, Brawner appears to have been retailing in the store 1883 or earlier; J. H. Chataigne, *Virginia Gazetteer and Classified Business Directory 1884-5*, (Richmond: J. H. Chataigne, 1885), 237-8; J. H. Chataigne, J. H., *Virginia State Gazetteer and Business Directory 1897-98*, vol. 7 (Richmond: J. L. Hill Printing Company, 1898), 423.

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³⁵ Fauquier County Deed Book 78, page 414, James L. and Mary E. Strother to William H. and Sue Lewis, 22 November 1887. Although this deed does not involve a conveyance of the store land and is the estate of William Smith, deceased, called the Georgetown Farm, it includes a plat showing the public road in front of the store locating Brawner, Cockerill and Henson's Wheelwright Shop in Little Georgetown.

³⁶ "A History of Chemical Engineering Timeline," <http://www.pafko.com/history/h_time.html>; "Broad Run Items," *The True Index*, 20 March 1897, 5 June 1897, 12 June 1897 and 7 August 1897; M. Louise Evans, "Strikes Weren't A Problem When Fauquier Had Its First Telephone Company in 1886," *The Fauquier Democrat*, 15 October 1953.

³⁷ Fauquier County Charter Book 1, page 18, R. B. L. Fleming, Thomas Henderson, H. N. Brawner, J. Brad Beverley, Robert Beverley, George Mason, William Beverley, officers of the Greenwood Cemetery Stock Company to be located at or near Georgetown, Fauquier County Virginia, 17 August 1888; Fauquier County Deed Book 107, page 484, William Beverley of Broad Run to the Georgetown Cemetery, Whereas on or about the first of February 1887, he delivered a certain deed of conveyance to the Georgetown Cemetery (at that time called Greenwood) that has since been lost, this deed for three acres and twenty-six poles was written on 4 October 1912 and recorded on 11 November 1912 to replace the lost indenture.

³⁸ "For Sale or Rent," *The True Index*, 30 April 1898; "For Sale or Rent," *The True Index*, 3 December 1898.

³⁹ United States Post Office Records for Fauquier County, Virginia, 1837-1947, Reel 610, Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia; Edith F. Axelsson, ed., *Virginia Postmasters and Post Offices 1789-1832* (Athens, Georgia: Iberian Publishing Company, 1991), 58-64.

⁴⁰ Hill's Gazetteer, 419, 423-24, 426, 428; Fauquier County Deed Book 78, page 414; Fauquier County Deed Book 86, page 38; Fauquier County Deed Book 123, page 52, Ralph and Eliza Stover of Bucks County, Pennsylvania to Robert C. Stover of Fauquier County, two acres, two roads and nine perches containing the Trap Branch Mills and millrace, 29 November 1889.

⁴¹ "Public Sale," *The True Index*, 29 April 1899.

⁴² "Broad Run Items," *The True Index*, 1 April 1899.

⁴³ "Personals," *The True Index*, 30 March 1899; Fauquier County Deed Book 90, page 174, H. N. Brawner and wife Mary L. to Edgar W. Heflin, the two lots in the village known as "Little Georgetown" being the same William Beverley and wife conveyed to Brawner on the 3rd of December 1894, 14 January 1899.

⁴⁴ *Virginia Business Directory and Gazetteer 1917*, vol. 10 (Richmond: Hill Directory Company, Inc., 1917), 372.

⁴⁵ *The Ladies Birthday Almanac For the Year 1901* (Chattanooga, Tennessee: Chattanooga Medicine Company, 1900), n. p.

⁴⁶ Ibid.

⁴⁷ Fauquier County Business Licenses, 1898-1910; Fauquier County Deed Book 128, page 236, Edgar W. Heflin to R. A. McIntyre, trustee, lists creditors to which said Heflin owes money, 23 March 1926; Joseph E. Morse, *Virginia's Country Stores a quiet passing* (Manassas, Virginia: E. M. Press, Inc., 1996), 106-127.

⁴⁸ Fauquier County Deed Book 128, page 515, Edgar W. Heflin to Carlton W. Heflin, 11 June 1926. "Carleton Washington Heflin is granted those certain lots in Little Georgetown in Scott District and known as the E. W. Heflin Storehouse and Home;" Nellie Lewis of Little Georgetown, interview by author, 8 August 2002.

⁴⁹ "130-Year-Old Stover's Mill at Broad Run Lost in Fire," *The Fauquier Democrat*, 14 September 1961. The date of construction and history printed in this report are inaccurate. The paper confused Stover's Mill with James K. Skinker's at Huntley.

⁵⁰ Morse, 8-10.

⁵¹ Fauquier County Store and Store/house Surveys, 1936-38, "WPA Inventory, Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia; Fauquier County Store and Store/house Surveys, MacLeod 1978-1983, Taylor 1972, 1999, VHLC Surveys, VDHR, DSS Inventory; Kalbian, 20 March 2002, 17-228; Grace Finkle, owner of James Payne's Store, 30-613, 7 July 2003; "Brenton Plantation Cottage," Mount Vernon Realty, Inc., Warrenton, Virginia, ca 1989.

⁵² Exterior and interior survey by the author in appreciation to the hospitality of Gracie Finkle, 7 July 2003; Cynthia MacLeod, "James Payne's Store," Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey Form, File No. 30-613, July 1979.

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⁵³ Kalbian, 117.

⁵⁴ Frances B. Foster, "Pierce's Store," WPA Inventory, 19 May 1937; Louise Lewis, "John Fox Store and Home," WPA Inventory, 27 August 1936; MacLeod Surveys, VHLC, 1978-1983; VDHR DSS Inventory, 1972-2003; Kalbian 117. There was no John Fox Store/house survey within MacLeod's Survey, Taylor's or Kalbian's.

⁵⁵ Gott, *High in Old Virginia's Piedmont*, 29, 180-81.

⁵⁶ Fauquier County Land Tax Records, 1838-1944. Ella Stover is shown as mill operator from 1926 to 1944. The latter year is the final entry for "Stover Mill;" Moffett, 9.

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Oral History Interviews

Bostwick, Edward of Little Georgetown. Interview by author, 4 May 2002.

Chamberlain, Norris of Reedville. Interview by author, 4 May 2002.

Finkle, Gracie of Sowego. Interview by author, 7 July 2003.

Hazel, Shelly of Little Georgetown. Interview by author, 8 August 2002.

Lewis, Nellie of Little Georgetown. Interview by author, 8 August 2002.

Lewis, William of Little Georgetown. Interview by author, 8 August 2002.

Smith, Cowper of Little Georgetown. Interview by author, 4 May 2002.

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (continued)

(UTM References are all on page 4 of the form.)

The boundary of this 1.44-acre parcel is delineated by the property outline on the Thoroughfare Gap, Virginia quadrant of the USGS and GIS maps included herewith and marked by the preceding UTM reference points listed on page 4 of the form.

Verbal Boundary Description:

Heflin's Store is situated approximately ten miles northeast of the town of Warrenton in the village known as Little Georgetown in Scott Magisterial District. The store stands on a triangular-shaped lot formed by the intersection of Blantyre Road (Route 628) on the front and north and Georgetown Road (Route 674) on the west and south.

Boundary Justification:

The 1.44-acre parcel is the same land purchased by Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hazel, Jr. on 15 November 1999 in Fauquier County Deed Book 855/708 as outlined on the site plan, GIS and Thoroughfare Gap USGS maps. The defined boundary contains the portion of the land on which Charles Stover had the stone store house built in 1845. This perimeter also surrounds the "one-acre lot, more or less, on which the stone store house, dwelling and outbuildings" stood when merchants H. N. Brawner and Edgar W. Heflin purchased the property in 1895 and 1899.

SECTION - ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTATION

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HEFLIN'S STORE
FAULKNER COUNTY,
VA.
THOROUGHFARE GAP
ROAD 20E 18

PHOTOCOPY OF ORIGINAL
U.S. 95 MAP
ENCLOSED

1-18 263750E 4300865N
2-18 362890E 4300840N
3-18 062810E 4300700N

47°30"

403

402

50'

401

400

99

98